

EMERGENCY MESSAGE-Feast of the Black Nazarene
January 09, 2012

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO U.S. CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD. THANK YOU.

Feast of the Black Nazarene

The U.S. Embassy advises U.S. Citizens in the Philippines to avoid areas of Manila where devotees of the Black Nazarene of Quiapo are expected to hold a procession on January 9, 2012. In a nation-wide address January 8, President Aquino noted the risk of possible terrorist activity associated with the procession and subsequent observances. The President of the Philippines counseled that security would be facilitated if celebrants would remain in their homes instead of attending the public procession. Failing that, participants were asked not to bring cell phones, fireworks, or backpacks to the celebrations. Those visiting or residing in the Metro Manila area should expect to see enhanced security precautions, and should comply with all requests by security officials. Maps of the procession routes and related traffic disturbances can be found at <http://www.mmda.gov.ph/192012-rerouting.html>.

The Department of State remains concerned about the continuing threat of terrorist actions and violence against U.S. citizens and interests throughout the world. The [Worldwide Caution](#) reminds U.S. citizens that terrorism can occur anywhere.

We encourage all U.S. citizens in the Philippines to enroll with the Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) or at the U.S. Embassy in Manila. By enrolling, you can receive the Embassy's most recent security and safety updates during your trip. Enrolling also ensures that we can reach you, or your designated emergency points of contact, during an emergency. The U.S. Embassy is located at: 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila, Philippines, tel. 63-2-301-2000. The American Citizens Services (ACS) section's fax number is 63-2-301-2017, and you may reach the ACS Section by email at ACSinfoManila@state.gov. The [ACS Section's website](#) includes consular information and the most recent messages to the U.S. citizen community in the Philippines.

U.S. citizens should also review the Department of State's [Country Specific Information for the Philippines](#) and stay up to date by bookmarking the [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current [Travel Warnings](#) and [Travel Alerts](#) as well as the [Worldwide Caution](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and become a fan of the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well. You can also download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or for callers from

other countries, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).